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This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/876,227, filed June 16, 1997, which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/734,097, filed October 21, 1996, which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/460,525, filed June 2, 1995, which is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/106,815, filed August 16, 1993.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6 and 8-10 (marked up version attached in Appendix), such that pending claims 3-6 and 8-10 are as follows:

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3. (Four times amended) A polypeptide consisting of a human erythropoietin receptor extracellular domain, said polypeptide having a specific affinity for human erythropoietin, wherein said polypeptide has a molecular weight of 29 kDa and contains only amino acids corresponding to the extracellular domain of the human erythropoietin receptor.

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4. (Twice amended) A purified antibody having specific binding affinity for human erythropoietin receptor, said antibody produced against a purified fragment of human erythropoietin receptor extracellular domain with a molecular weight of 29 kDa, wherein the fragment contains only amino acids corresponding to the extracellular domain of the human erythropoietin receptor.

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5. (Amended) An binding assay composition comprising:

- (a) a solid phase reagent; and
- (b) the polypeptide of claim 3 operably coupled to said reagent.

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Cont
6. (Amended) An immunoassay composition comprising:

- (a) a solid phase reagent; and
- (b) an antibody of claim 4 operably coupled to said reagent.

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8. (Twice amended) A purified antibody having specific binding affinity for a purified human erythropoietin receptor extracellular domain polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide is expressed in E-coli, has an affinity for human erythropoietin, and does not include any amino acids from non-human DNA.

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9. (Amended) An immunoassay composition comprising:

- (a) a solid phase reagent; and
- (b) an antibody of claim 8 operably coupled to said reagent.

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10. (Amended) A method for obtaining an antibody having specific binding affinity for human erythropoietin receptor polypeptide, said method comprising:

- contacting a non-human mammal with a purified preparation of an extracellular domain fragment of human erythropoietin receptor polypeptide, wherein the fragment contains only native human erythropoietin receptor and has a molecular weight of 29 kDa, and
- collecting said antibody from said non-human mammal.

REMARKS

Claims 3-6 and 8-10 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, and 7 (Group I) remain withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as drawn to non-elected inventions. Claims 3-6 and 8-10 are amended herein.